

- FOR -

JULY  
AND  
AUGUST  
ISSUES

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
DX CLUB INC.  
POSTOFFICE BOX 75 - OAKLAND.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX CLUB, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 75, OAKLAND, CAL.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR THE BENEFIT AND INTEREST OF ALL IT'S MEMBERS - - - - -

President - W6SR  
 Vice Pres.- W6MVQ  
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 Board of Directors  
 W6BUY  
 W6LDD

Founded - 1946

Past Presidents  
 W6PB  
 W6IKQ  
 W6TI  
 W6WB  
 W6OMC  
 W6LDD  
 W6ATO

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July and August Issues 1951

Issues 7 &amp; 8 Vol. 4

Once again the DX'er goes to press without a picture. The pictures taken of both the W6RRG and W6NIG layouts did not turn out good so will have to be taken over. If any of you fellows have a picture of your layout, please give us the negative, we would like to be able to plan for future issues as well as the current one. News was very scarce due to the Sun Spot conditions during the past month but seem to be improving these last few days. With this issue we print out first Technical article, the stencils were cut for this article on W6BUY's TVI sniffer by W6PB who we also thank for the usual FB cover. If any of you fellows have some unusually good piece of equipment that you have developed just write it up and we will put it in the DX'er.

Over half the year is gone and we are just about half way between the Fresno DX Conferences so we should start planning on what we will do that special week end in January. The Southern California DX Club will be the host this year so we can really sit back and enjoy it. The last two have been outstanding in attendance and the gang always has a good time.

The Northern California DX Club was well represented at the National Convention in Seattle. W6DZZ, W6ATO, W6WB, W6AM, W6DYP, and W6JK were up at the convention. We understand that there was around 600 at the DX breakfast and W6WB won a 4-400A as first prize on the DX quiz. They say W6ATO went to the SCM's breakfast first but there were on six there so he ended up at the DX breakfast. Al, W6DYP won a soldering iron in the golf tournament, whats your handicap Al, or was it Blind Bogey? ZK2AA was at the convention and told W6ATO he will be at our September meeting.

The goal of every member of the club should be DXCC and WAZ. These are the two best DX awards and we should all keep plugging until we obtain them both. While speaking of DXCC we have often wondered why the ARRL doesn't put out a "Double Century" award for those that reach the 200 country mark. When they award the DXCC and the additional stickers they get the country list and it seems that instead of issuing a sticker for the 200th country they could send the Double Century award. Well anyway it's an idea for you guys working on your second hundred countries to think about.

Another thing that we should do, and I am one of those who hasn't, is to send in our country list to W6QD so our country totals would appear in CQ. If I keep this up you guys will be so busy with your book keeping that you won't have time to work any DX so I had better QRT, and anyway I'm running out of paper, so for now;

73 &amp; Gud DX,

W 6 E J A

The following juicy stuff was sent in by W6ATO, Times are daylight saving, according to times Dick must have cured his TVI:  
VK9XK 14031 14085 T9 11:30 pm  
QTH Samarai, Papua and he asks all to send reply card for QSL.  
ILAHR 14043 T7 8:00 pm  
ET3Q 14047 8:00 pm  
VU2NB 14109 T9 9:00 am  
ZK2AC 14028 T7 11:45pm  
It is thought that ZK2AC took the place of ZK2AA as radio supt. and postmaster of Niue while Bill is at the Seattle convention.  
EA9BA 14024 11:00 pm  
FP8AX 14045 6:00 pm  
QSL via W1GKK  
CP5EK 14091 9:00 pm  
AP2N 14090 9:00 pm  
FN8AD 14108 11:00 am

Frank, W6MEK, comes through with the following item:  
VRIG on British Canton left the island on July 20th. Another British subject on the island is interested and expects to become VR1H soon. This was given Frank by KB6AT who is on the same island.

Our newest member, W6GPB sends us the following:  
IA8UC is located in Bardu, 70 degrees North, instead of 80 degrees as reported in the last issue.  
UA0KSB is located in Irkutsk Zone 18 and promises to QSL, 14 Mc in the AM.  
XU6F QSL's, QTH is: 13 Yik Yam St., Gr. Fl., Hong Kong.  
Joe heard the following on 14 Mc. CW:  
VK9QK 1000; 3V8AN 2235; EA8BF 0010;  
MD2PJ 2330; FR7ZA 0900; VQ8CB 0830;  
VK9XK 2300; EA8BC 1220; EKLJP 1200;  
and CW1OX in the a.m.

FOR SALE:  
By W6MEK BC639 Rcvr. & BC640 Xmtr.

Wanted:  
By W6GPB: DB22A preselector and a 220 volt Variac.

If any of you fellows have something that you want to sell or trade just drop us a line and we will put it in the DX'er. Also let us know what you want and we will put that in also.

W6GIZ tells us he worked FL8AM, 14010 Kc. 11:00 pm daylight time

Our So. Calif. news hawk, W6AM sends us the following:  
New officers of the Southern Calif. DX Club are,  
President W6ADP, Vice Pres. W6BUD, Treasure W6NTR, Editor W6SYG, Recording-Sec. W6AOA, Corresponding Sec. W6BXL, Chairman of the Board of Directors W6AM, Directors W6NGA and W6TIP.

W6AM worked FB8XX 14030 Kc 11:45 pm, 214 degrees.

Don tells us that W6EZJ rec'd a ticket from the FCC for calling a PK4 so'o you guys, keep your eye of that list of forbidden prefixes.

Don received a letter from VS7KR who is now in England and if you worked him and did not get a QSL his QTH is: Squadron - Leader K. Rancombe, RAF c/o 86 Orchard - Road, St. Annes, Lancs., England.

JA2HB wrote Don that he is now handling cards for AC3PT and you can get QSL thru him faster than QSLing direct. Also that XU8SR is working undercover in China. Also that Japanese Nationals will be licensed soon. They would be back on by now if it wasn't for the Korean situation.

We received a letter from our Northwest member W7HXG, Lee sends his best to the gang. He has been quite active on 20 and 40 but hasn't got his beam up yet.

W6PB gave us the following:  
YN1CO 14045 Kc. T9  
MD2BJ and MD2PJ both VFO on 14 Mc.  
W5LAX using VFO on low end of 14 Mc.  
FF8JC also VFO on the low end.  
CT3AB 14023 Kc. T8

We understand that when you drive too fast through the town of Mt. Shasta they give you a special QSL. Through the grapevine we hear that Brownie, W6DYP, collected one on his way to the Seattle convention. What was the signal report Brownie?

The Southern Calif. DX Bulletin tells us that the new FG7XA is Andre Le Til, c/o P.A.A., Pointe-de-Pitre, Guadeloupe will be on the air 8:30 to 10:30 est every Sunday morning about 14070 - 75. The rig donated by W4LVV runs 15 watts. The dope sez that the license was issued to CM9AA for ten days and then reverted to Andre for keeps.

Rumor has it that W6SAI's operation in Andorra was slightly undercover although everyone knew where they were going.

JUL/AUG 51

# "AN IMPROVED 'SIGNAL SNIFFER' FOR T.V. CHASING."

W6BUY & W6PB

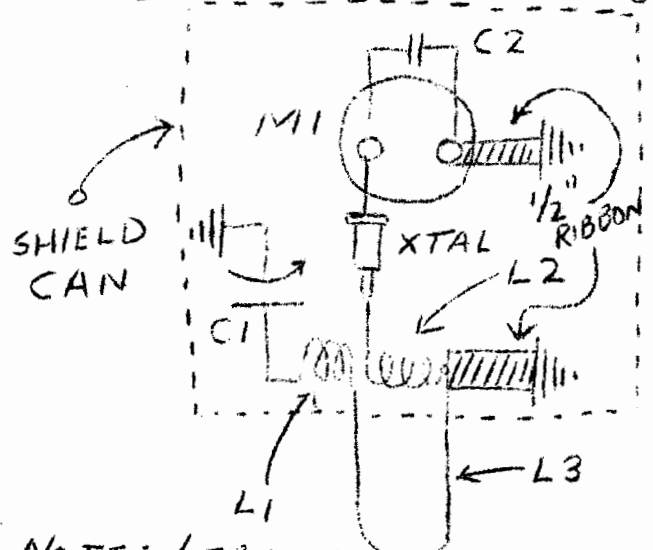
Probably one of the worst places close in to the Bay Area to receive Television is Walnut Creek and, although a quiet location as far as noise is concerned from electrical wiring etc., the screams of the neighbors could be heard for several miles when the TV craze hit this fringe area and W6BUY attempted to open up on 20 CW.

Attacking the problem was the first order of the day so Jack built up the original 'Signal Sniffer' as described in one of the trade papers dished out for free to the Hams.

However, this particular device had one great drawback, namely, it picked up too much of the fundamental and it was further necessary to change coils to cover all of the TV frequencies. It was at this point that W6BUY made a few modifications and came up with the device as shown. It covers the range from 52 to 175 megacycles, with no coils to change, and even better, it does not pick up the annoying sock from the fundamental frequency which can be pretty disturbing when chasing VHF harmonics.

The present sniffer uses a 0-50 Microammeter and the whole gadget is built in a small aluminum utility box approximately 2"x3"x4". However, the size of the meter used will pretty well determine the size of the box. The main points to consider are: short leads, the tank circuits wired with  $\frac{1}{2}$ " copper ribbon and the special tuning condenser C-1.

C-1 is a rebuilt 0-50 mmfd. condenser of the prewar variety with a single bearing rotor. In order to bring the minimum capacity down, when the condenser is wide open, and still have enough C left to cover the range as noted above, the 50 mmfd. was



ALL GROUNDS MADE TO SHIELD CAN.

- M-1 = 0/50 MA METER
- C1 = SEE ARTICLE
- C2 = .003 SMALL MICA
- L1 = 4 T. #10 BARE -  $\frac{1}{2}$ " O.D.  $\frac{1}{2}$ " LONG.
- L2 = 4 T. #18 SOLID PUSHBACK WIRE -  $\frac{5}{16}$ " O.D. CLOSE WOUND.
- L3 =  $\frac{1}{8}$ " TUBING - 1" WIDE  $\frac{1}{2}$ " LONG.
- XTAL = 1N21 GERMANIUM

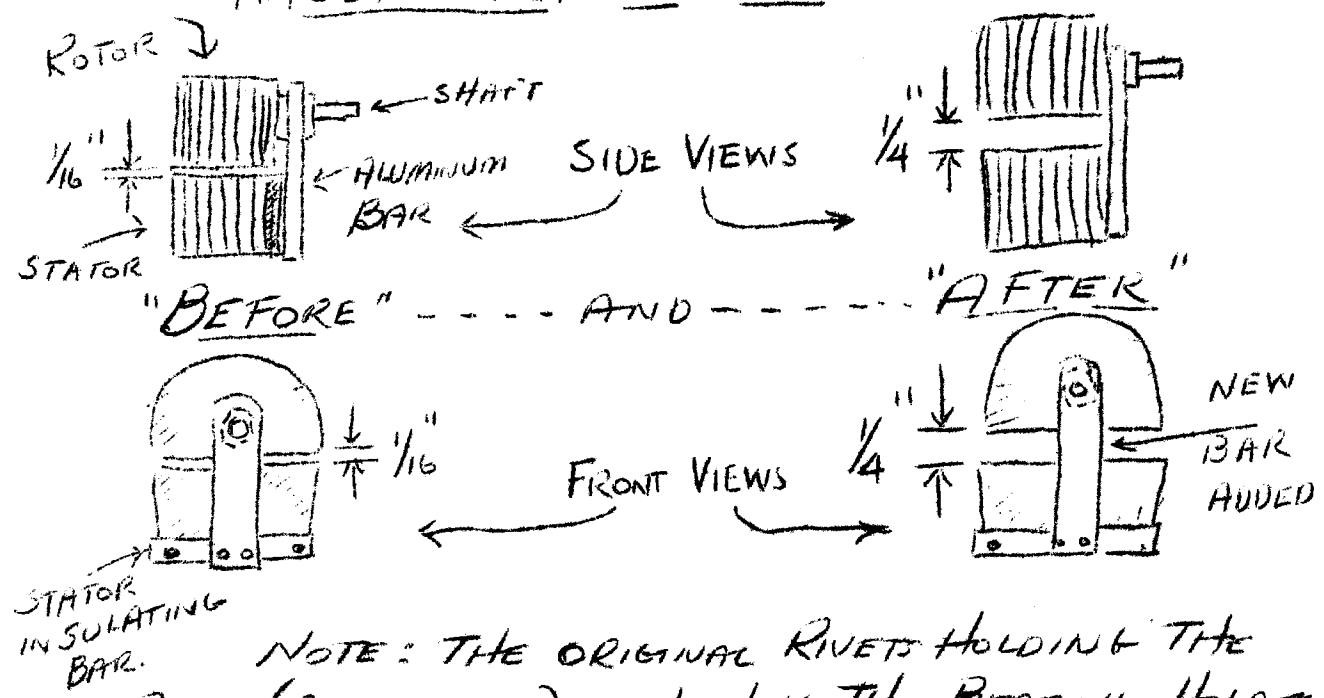
NOTE: LEADS AS SHOWN FROM METER AND PICKUP COIL TO GROUND ARE  $\frac{1}{2}$ " RIBBON (C0)

(IMPROVED SIGNAL SNIFFER----Continued).

selected. The make is not known but thought to be an old Hammerlund with the small brown bakelight strip insulating the stator plates from the rotor plates. The two rivets holding the bar which holds the rotor plates were removed. The aluminum bar thrown away and a new aluminum bar was substituted. The new bar was made longer so that when the condenser was opened up to its minimum capacity, the rotor and stator plates, instead of being separated by about 1/16th inch were a good 1/4" apart. This was sufficient to bring the minimum capacity to somewhere in reason.

As to the performance of this gadget it is possible to pick up high order harmonics on any lead in the shack or even the final. If the Sniffer is calibrated with a good Grid dipper, the TV channels may be marked on the C-1 scale and then the fun may begin. It is possible with this device, to change the frequency of harmonics so that they do not land directly within the TV channels. However, once you build this gadget, you can really begin to commence. You can take W6BUY's word for it. It is a help.

MODIFICATION OF C-1



NOTE: THE ORIGINAL RIVETS HOLDING THE BAR (ALUMINUM) WHICH IS THE BEARING HOLDER, ARE REMOVED - WHEN THE NEW ROTOR BEARING BAR IS INSTALLED, SMALL NUTS & SCREWS ARE USED IN PLACE OF THE ORIGINAL RIVETS - THE ORIGINAL CONDENSER USED HAS 8 STATOR PLATES AND 7 ROTOR PLATES. SPACING BETWEEN PLATES APPROXIMATELY 1/32".

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX CLUB, INC. --- POSTWAR COUNTRIES WKED

CALL	WORKED (CW)	CONFIRMED	WORKED (PHONE)	CONFIRMED	DXCC	WAZ
W6AM	225	224	164	164	X/P	X
W6AED	-	-	123	100	X/P	37
W6AJF	-	(Honorary Member)	-	-	-	-
W6ATO	155	147	46	33	X	X
W6BUY	160	141	-	-	X	X
W6CEM	166	150	-	-	X	X
W6CIS	189	160	-	-	X	X
W6CTL	177	167	-	-	X	40
W6DUB	142	140	-	-	X	X
W6DYP	232	178	-	-	X	X
W6DZZ	222	215	-	-	X	X
W6EJA	104	93	-	-	-	37
W6GIZ	120	96	-	-	-	38
W6GPB	150	129	35	35	X	40
W6IDY	-	-	142	120	-	-
W6IKQ	-	-	155	148	X/P	36
W6ITH	-	-	115	115	X/P	36
W6JK	170	160	-	-	X	X
W6KEK	156	131	-	-	X	40
W6KEV	189	156	-	-	X	X
W6LDD	179	158	45	25	X	X
W6LMZ	152	129	-	-	X	37
W6MEK	234	223	-	-	X	X
W6MHB	173	165	-	-	X	X
W6MVQ	224	204	-	-	X	X
W6IX	226	214	-	-	X	X
W6NIG	146	122	131	120	X/P	37
W6NZ	135	118	-	-	X	39
W6OMC	203	194	-	-	X	X
W6PB	207	192	-	-	X	X
W6QDE	14 1	112	-	-	-	38
W6RBQ	203	191	-	-	X	X
W6RCC	130	106	-	-	X	40
W6RRG	118	99	90	67	-	39
W6SC	209	190	-	-	X	X
W6SQ	72	60	-	-	-	20
W6SR	183	168	-	-	X	40
W6TT	219	213	142	133	X/P	X
W6TI	200	192	-	-	X	X
W6UPV	-	-	76	76	-	31
W6UYX	135	115	132	114	X/P	37
W6UZX	183	171	128	120	X/P	X
W6VE	205	189	-	-	X	X
W6WB	215	188	90	50	X	X
W6WP	76	60	-	-	-	-
W6WJX	140	130	69	60	X	40
W6ZCY	213	199-	-	-	X	X
W6ZUI	157	143	-	-	X	39
W7HXG	122	106	34	26	X	39
G5LI	208	190	-	-	X	40

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Please correct at next meeting

Totals

DXCC 42 (cw) 8 (phone)  
WAZ 27  
Members 50